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	FRB-00	H-00	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	ITC-01	MOFM-00
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	SCT-00	ISNE-00	DOHS-00	FMPC-00	SP-00	SSO-00	STR-00
	NCTC-00	ASDS-00	BBG-00	EPAE-00	IIP-00	SCRS-00	DSCC-00
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 TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PTER](#) [ECON](#) [OVIP](#) [PK](#)  
 SUBJECT: SECRETARY CLINTON,S OCTOBER 30, 2009, MEETING WITH  
 FATA AND NWFP LEADERS

Classified By: Anne W. Patterson, Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

¶1. (C) Summary: Political, civic, and business leaders from Northwest Frontier Province (NWFP) and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) told the Secretary during an October 30 meeting in Islamabad that "not all tribesmen are militants" and that development and long-term U.S. economic engagement with Pakistan are keys to countering militant influence. They suggested focusing development projects on women, youth, and children and offered ideas for improving the image of the U.S. in Pakistan. Several participants urged the U.S. to seek a negotiated solution to the Afghanistan conflict; another supported a U.S. troop surge in Afghanistan. End Summary.

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 DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS  
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¶2. (C) The NWFP and FATA leaders thanked the Secretary for speaking with them directly about issues affecting their regions, explaining that often decisions about NWFP and the FATA are taken without their input. Habibullah Khan said it was important to remember that not all tribesmen are militants, but rather are poor, illiterate, and jobless people whom extremists prey upon and victimize. Development, with the assistance of the U.S. and international community, is a key to countering the militants' influence, they argued.

¶3. (C) Several NWFP government officials stressed the need to increase funding and support for provincial government structures, which can immediately impact people in need. They said that IDP issues have added to their challenges. The officials cited recent military successes as evidence that the democratic government is capable of achieving results and said they can build the confidence of the population by bolstering development efforts.

¶4. (C) NGO leaders argued that since institutions are weak and driven by personalities, the U.S. should use a variety of channels to deliver aid. They highlighted the importance of good governance and democratic accountability at all levels of government.

¶15. (C) Businesswoman Lubna Farooq encouraged long-term U.S. economic engagement with Pakistan and stressed the need for enhanced market access and public/private partnerships. As she put it, "future wars will be about commerce, so help us prepare for the future." Businessman Nauman Wazir stressed the need to make Reconstruction Opportunity Zones (ROZs) more generous and locate them in and near the FATA to provide jobs for the tribal population. He also argued that transit trade with Afghanistan must be streamlined and provide equal tariff benefits for Afghan and Pakistani businesses.

¶16. (C) The participants agreed that development should focus on women and children, as they are the foundation of communities and are most impacted by the conflict. Swat University Vice Chancellor Farooq Khan proposed that the U.S. provide monthly stipends to keep FATA and NWFP children in school and suggested they receive scholarships from grade school to college. Noting the importance of waging the ideological battle against militancy, he described his ongoing efforts to work with teenage boys in Swat to reverse the brainwashing they had received from the Taliban.

¶17. (C) NGO leader Faisal Ali Khan argued that many militants are in their 30s and are disconnected from mainstream institutions. He advocated promoting intergenerational change by reforming political parties away from "family fiefdoms" into democratic institutions. He also encouraged youth participation in the FATA Development Authority and the legislature in order to overcome misconceptions and prepare them to lead these institutions in the future.

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AFGHANISTAN  
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¶18. (C) NWFP Provincial Assembly Member Maulana Mufti Kifayatullah told the Secretary that the Obama administration's promise of change rang hollow because the U.S. still relies on "power (i.e., military action) instead of wisdom" and thus the U.S. presence in the region is "not good for peace." He contended that the only way to solve the region's problems is through "negotiation, negotiation, negotiation" and said the U.S. must first negotiate a solution in Afghanistan and then extend negotiations into Pakistan. FATA parliamentarian Orakzai agreed.

¶19. (C) Muhammad Farooq Khan favored the U.S. sending additional troops to Afghanistan and stated that it appeared that the Pakistani Army and intelligence agencies were determined to defeat militants on the Pakistan side of the border.

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IMPROVING PERCEPTIONS OF THE U.S.  
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¶10. (C) The participants offered various proposals for countering negative perceptions of the U.S. among ordinary Pakistanis, including launching a "media war" to counter extremist ideology and increasing the visibility of the U.S. in Pakistan. Businessman Nauman Wazir suggested that the U.S. undertake large projects, such as dam-building, which would employ many people and demonstrate tangible benefits of U.S. assistance. NGO leader Mariam Bibi put the onus on the Pakistani government, stating that in order to build trust, it must take responsibility for past actions and move forward instead of passing blame.

¶11. (U) Participants:

U.S.  
The Secretary  
Ambassador Anne Patterson  
Ambassador Richard Holbrooke, SRAP  
Andrei Cotton (Embassy Notetaker)

PAKISTAN  
Begum Jan, Director, Tribal Women's Welfare Association

Muhammad Farooq Khan, Vice Chancellor, Swat Islamic University  
Ihsanullah Khan Mehsud, Tribal Elder and Judge, South  
Waziristan  
Sitara Ayaz, Minister for Social Welfare and Women's Issues,  
Northwest Frontier Province (NWFP)  
Munir Orakzai, Member of the National Assembly (MNA), Kurram  
Agency, Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA)  
Habibullah Khan, Additional Chief Secretary, FATA Secretariat  
Maulana Mufti Kifayatullah, Madrassa principal and Jamiat  
Ulema-e-Islam Member of the Parliamentary Assembly (MPA), NWFP  
Malik Muhammad Daud Khan, Tribal Elder, Bajaur Agency, FATA  
Shazia Tehmas, Pakistan People's Party MPA, NWFP  
Afrasiab Khattak, President NWFP Awami National Party and  
federal Senator  
Faisal Ali Khan, FIDA Director and DHL Public Policy Advisor  
Pir Sabir Shah, Pakistan Muslim League - Nawaz (PML-N)  
Provincial Presiden, NWFP  
Nauman Wazir, CEO, Frontier Foundry, Peshawar  
Lubna Farooq, CEO, Atlantis Water, Peshawar  
Masood ul Mulk, Head, Sarhad Rural Support Program  
Mariam Bibi, Director, Kwendo Kor NGO  
Shandana Hamayun, Head, Rural Support Program Network  
Farhana Jahangir, Vice Chancellor, Women University, Peshawar

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